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Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia

Payroll jobs and wages estimates, sourced from Single Touch Payroll (STP) data

Reference period Week ending 17 July 2021

Released 5/08/2021

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Key statistics

- Payroll jobs decreased by 2.4% between the weeks ending 3 and 17 July 2021.

Suspension of wages estimates

Around the end of the financial year there is a greater variation in business reporting, as businesses finalise their employee's earning information and the financial year is reset in payroll systems. This variability in reporting makes the production of high quality wages indexes difficult. As a result, wages estimates have been temporarily withdrawn from this release, until more complete data is received for July. As such, wages estimates have been replaced with 'not available' (na or NA) in both tables and data downloads throughout this release.

The suspension of wages estimates has also effected the early withdrawal of Data download Tables 1, 2 and 3, which were planned for retirement in the transition to monthly releases. Underlying payroll jobs data continue to be available in Table 4 of the Data downloads.

National

In the fortnight up to the week ending 17 July 2021:

- Payroll jobs decreased by 2.4%, compared to a decrease of 0.2% in the previous fortnight

Table 1 - Percentage change in payroll jobs and wages (a)

	In the fortnight since 3 Jul 2021	In the month since 19 Jun 2021	In the year since 18 Jul 2020
Payroll jobs	-2.4%	-2.6%	3.3%
Total wages	na	na	na

a. Wages estimates have been withdrawn from this release. For more information, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](#).

Estimates of changes throughout this release are calculated using un-rounded index values. They may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded index values.

Graph 1 - Payroll jobs, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)(b)



- a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in estimates. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).
- b. Wages estimates have been withdrawn from this release. For more information, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](#).

State and territory

All geographical areas in this release represent the residential address of the jobholder.

The largest changes in states and territories in the fortnight up to the week ending 17 July 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- New South Wales decreased by 4.4%
- Australian Capital Territory decreased by 2.4%

Table 2 - Percentage change by states and territories

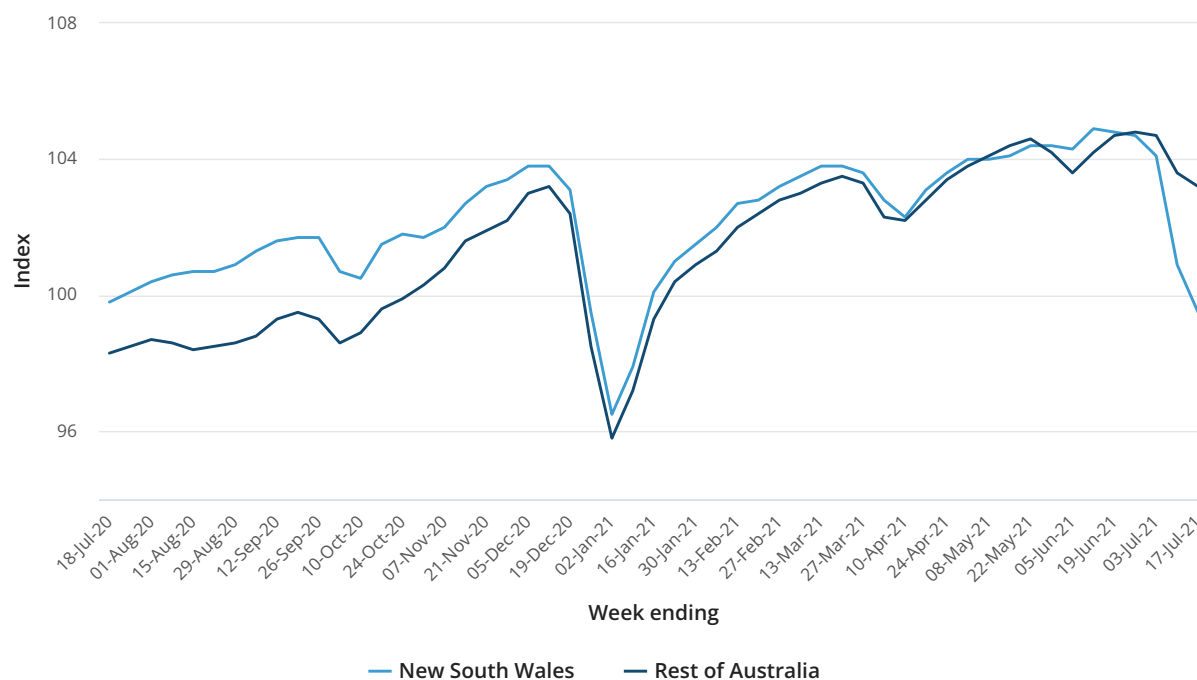
	Payroll jobs		Total wages (a)	
	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021
New South Wales	-4.4%	-0.5%	na	na
Victoria	-1.9%	1.6%	na	na
Queensland	-1.1%	3.6%	na	na
South Australia	-1.4%	4.6%	na	na
Western Australia	-1.2%	5.6%	na	na
Tasmania	-1.7%	1.6%	na	na
Northern Territory	-1.5%	5.9%	na	na
Australian Capital Territory	-2.4%	1.5%	na	na
Australia	-2.4%	2.0%	na	na

a. Wages estimates have been withdrawn from this release. For more information, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](#).

b. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in estimates. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

An additional index of Australian payroll jobs with New South Wales excluded (Rest of Australia) is available below, providing alternative insights into the period of increased COVID-19 restrictions in New South Wales.

Graph 2 - Payroll jobs by selected geography, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)



a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in estimates. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Map 1 - State and territory percentage change in payroll jobs, in the fortnight to 17 July 2021

Loading map...

Sub-state - payroll jobs

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by sub-state regions, Statistical Area 4 (SA4) and Statistical Area 3 (SA3) and Greater Capital City Area (GCCSA) regions, are presented as index values in Table 5 and 5A of the Data downloads.

For more information on the geography used in this release, see the [Glossary \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#glossary\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#glossary).

Map 2 - GCCSA regions percentage change in payroll jobs, in the fortnight to 17 July 2021

Loading map...

The ACT only has one GCCSA region for the entire Territory.

Sex

In the fortnight up to the week ending 17 July 2021:

Payroll jobs:

- Worked by females decreased by 2.8%
- Worked by males decreased by 2.0%

Table 3 - Percentage change by sex (a)

	Payroll jobs		Total wages (b)	
	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (c)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (c)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021
Males	-2.0%	-0.2%	na	na
Females	-2.8%	0.9%	na	na
All persons	-2.4%	2.0%	na	na

a. Persons with 'unknown' sex are only included in the calculation of All persons indexes. For more information, see Data components, totals and index calculation in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

b. Wages estimates have been withdrawn from this release. For more information, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](#).

c. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in estimates. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Graph 3 - Payroll jobs by sex, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)



a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Age group

The largest changes in age groups in the fortnight up to the week ending 17 July 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Worked by people aged 70 years and over decreased by 5.3%
- Worked by people aged 20-29 decreased by 3.9%

Table 4 - Percentage change by age group

	Payroll jobs		Total wages (a)	
	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021
15-19 year olds	-3.6%	0.7%	na	na
20-29 year olds	-3.9%	-0.7%	na	na
30-39 year olds	-2.1%	2.3%	na	na
40-49 year olds	-1.5%	1.8%	na	na
50-59 year olds	-1.5%	3.1%	na	na
60-69 year olds	-2.4%	6.6%	na	na
Aged 70 years and over	-5.3%	6.3%	na	na
All persons	-2.4%	2.0%	na	na

a. Wages estimates have been withdrawn from this release. For more information, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](#).

b. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in estimates. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

5 year age groups

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by 5 year age groups are presented as index values in Table 8 of the Data downloads.

Industry

The largest changes in industries in the fortnight up to the week ending 17 July 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

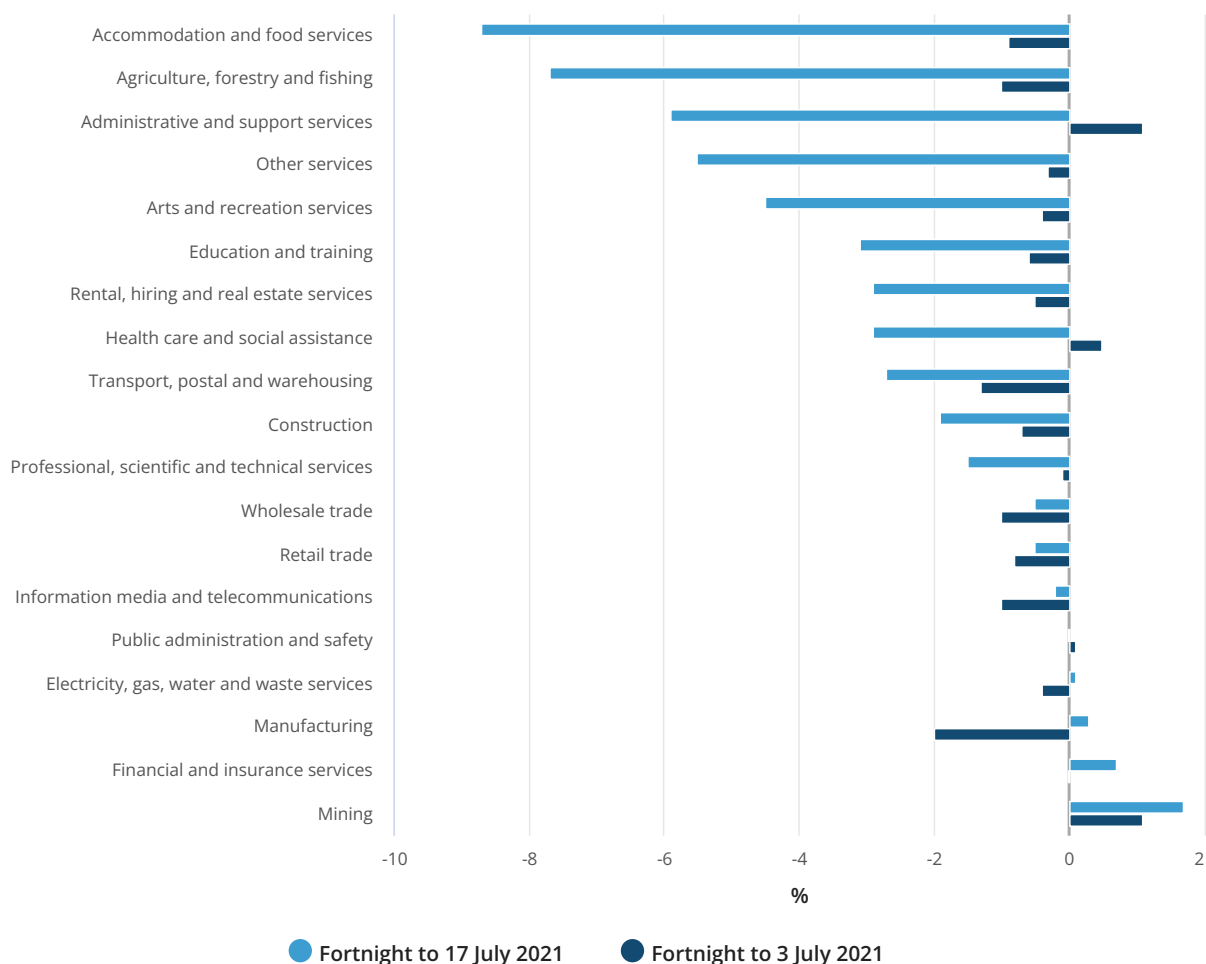
- Accommodation and food services decreased by 8.7%
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 7.7%

Table 5 - Percentage change by industry

	Payroll jobs (a)	Total wages (a)(b)		
	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (c)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021	Change between 3 Jul 2021 and 17 Jul 2021 (c)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-7.7%	-1.9%	na	na
Mining	1.7%	2.4%	na	na
Manufacturing	0.3%	-1.4%	na	na
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	0.1%	4.3%	na	na
Construction	-1.9%	2.7%	na	na
Wholesale trade	-0.5%	-1.3%	na	na
Retail trade	-0.5%	1.8%	na	na
Accommodation and food services	-8.7%	-9.7%	na	na
Transport, postal and warehousing	-2.7%	-8.1%	na	na
Information media and telecommunications	-0.2%	-5.8%	na	na
Financial and insurance services	0.7%	10.6%	na	na
Rental, hiring and real estate services	-2.9%	1.6%	na	na
Professional, scientific and technical services	-1.5%	5.9%	na	na
Administrative and support services	-5.9%	3.8%	na	na
Public administration and safety	0.0%	11.7%	na	na
Education and training	-3.1%	-2.5%	na	na
Health care and social assistance	-2.9%	6.3%	na	na
Arts and recreation services	-4.5%	-4.6%	na	na
Other services	-5.5%	2.8%	na	na
All industries	-2.4%	2.0%	na	na

- a. Some industries experience pronounced seasonality in either payroll jobs and wages or both. For more information, see Seasonality in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).
- b. Wages estimates have been withdrawn from this release. For more information, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](#).
- c. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in estimates. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Graph 4 - Percentage change in payroll jobs by industry (a)



a. Industries ranked by percentage change in the latest fortnight.

Industry subdivision - Payroll jobs

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by industry subdivision are presented as index values in Table 6 of the Data downloads. For more information on the industry classifications used in this release, see the [Glossary \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#glossary\)](#).

Employment size

Recent movements in payroll jobs by employment size are subject to higher than usual levels of revision (over a longer period) than other estimates. This is particularly the case for small employers (with under 20 employees). Further information is presented on the impact of revisions on the small employers index, in Variation in revisions in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Table 6 - Percentage change in payroll jobs by employment size (a)

	Change between 3 and 17 Jul 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 17 Jul 2021 (c)
Under 20 employees	-6.9%	0.6%
20-199 employees	-3.2%	3.0%
200 employees and over	0.3%	1.8%
All businesses	-2.4%	2.0%

a. Records with 'unknown' employment size are only included in the calculation of All businesses indexes. For more information, see Data components, totals and index calculation in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

b. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs. For more information, see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

c. Care should be exercised when referring to change in employment size pre and post characteristics update. For more information, see Update of employer characteristics in [Methods review \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-17-july-2021#methods-review\)](#).

Data downloads

Table 1: National spotlight

This table has been withdrawn, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates) for further information.

Table 2: State and territory spotlight

This table has been withdrawn, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates) for further information.

Table 3: Industry spotlight

This table has been withdrawn, see [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates) for further information.

Table 4: Payroll jobs and wages indexes

Wages estimates within this download have been withdrawn. See [Suspension of wages estimates \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-3-july-2021#suspension-of-wages-estimates) for further information.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[2.52 MB]

Table 5: Sub-state - Payroll jobs indexes

These estimates are now updated in every release.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[251.86 KB]

Table 5a: Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA) regions - Payroll jobs indexes

New estimates available since 22 July 2021.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[44.86 KB]

Table 6: Industry subdivision - Payroll jobs indexes

These estimates are now updated in every release.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[77.9 KB]

Table 7: Employer characteristics - Payroll jobs index

Contains estimates of payroll jobs by employment size, including state and territory dimension.

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[50.08 KB]

Table 8: Jobholder characteristics - Payroll jobs index

Contains estimates of payroll jobs by 5 year age groups.

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[55.51 KB]

All data cubes

[↓ Download ZIP](#)
[1.68 MB]

Changes in this release

The following sections were updated in this release:

- National and Sex: graphs now present one year periods
- State and Territory: additional graph of selected geographies (NSW and Rest of Australia)
- Industry: graph now presents ranked change for consecutive fortnights
- Data downloads: Tables 5, 5A and 6 are now updated in every release

The following section of the Methodology was updated in this release:

- Differences to labour force employment statistics: text updates

Upcoming changes to this release

The transition of the Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia to a monthly frequency has been delayed until September 2021, in line with our rapid response capability to prioritise timeliness of estimates surrounding changing COVID-19 circumstances. A transitional 'fortnightly' release with a 26-day lag will be released on Thursday 26 August for the week ending 31 July 2021.

First monthly release

The first monthly release is scheduled for 9 September 2021 and will include estimates up to the week ending 14 August 2021. The time between the reference week and the release date will be extended by around 9 days, to deliver a 26-day lag in the compilation of estimates. This allows for more complete business reporting and a reduction in the level of imputation in the most recent weeks of data, improving the quality of estimates and reducing subsequent revision.

In addition to quality improvements, the frequency change will also enable an expansion of outputs which will be described in the next release.

Contact labour.statistics@abs.gov.au (<mailto:labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>) for more information on upcoming changes.

Previous articles

Previously published articles and information of interest are linked below:

- [Distribution of jobholder and employer characteristics \(/articles/distribution-jobholder-and-employer-characteristics\)](/articles/distribution-jobholder-and-employer-characteristics) provides selected distributions to aid in interpreting estimates produced from STP data
- [A year of COVID-19 through payroll jobs and wages statistics \(/articles/year-covid-19-through-payroll-jobs-and-wages-statistics\)](/articles/year-covid-19-through-payroll-jobs-and-wages-statistics) reviews payroll jobs and wages in the year since Australia's 100th case of COVID-19
- [Year-end data variability \(/articles/year-end-data-variability\)](/articles/year-end-data-variability) provides some context on seasonality and seasonal variation
- [Secondary jobs \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-october-2020#secondary-jobs\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-october-2020#secondary-jobs) provides insight into multiple jobholders
- [Incorporating JobKeeper supported payments into Weekly payroll jobs and wages in Australia \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-30-may-2020#incorporating-jobkeeper-supported-back-payments-into-weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-in-australia\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-30-may-2020#incorporating-jobkeeper-supported-back-payments-into-weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-in-australia) describes how JobKeeper payments are included

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6160.0.55.001.

Methodology

[Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia methodology, Week ending 17 July 2021](#)